



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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08/581437

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/581,437	12/29/95	MARCUS	B 003

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F3M1/0628

ROVNAK, J

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3302	2

DATE MAILED: 06/28/96

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

*SEE ATTACHED OFFICE ACTION.*

Commissioner of Patents

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/581,437

Applicant(s)

Marcus et al.

Examiner

John Rovnak

Group Art Unit

3302



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 29, 1995

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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**Part III DETAILED ACTION**

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --  
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee et al..

Regarding claim 1, Lee et al. anticipate an educational system, comprising: an object having at least one visually recognizable symbol thereon (30); an emitter within said object (input surfaces which are information emitters which give out signals (indicators for inciting action) uniquely representative of said at least one visually recognizable symbol); and an enclosure (10), including:  
a surface for supporting said object, and a processor (Fig.6), including means for receiving said signal from said emitter, said processor capable of identifying said symbol from said signal, and capable of identifying a position of said object on said surface.

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Lee et al. disclose an apparatus for entering information into a computer (Fig.6), the information being entered via the placement of a plurality of objects on the

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apparatus, each object having at least one unique item of detectable information associated therewith, comprising:

a surface for receiving the placement of an object (Fig.1), one or more detectors capable of detecting the information associated with an object placed on the surface (14-17); a line capable of communicating the detected information from the apparatus to the computer (Fig.6). The detectors are capable of detecting the location of an object on the surface.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Rovnak whose telephone number is (703) 308-3087.

JR.  
J.R.

June 19, 1996